

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/JP2003/014775

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P32610-P0	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/JP2003/014775	International filing date (day/month/year) 20 November 2003 (20.11.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 22 November 2002 (22.11.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06F 17/60		
Applicant MATSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.		

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of <u>7</u> sheets, as follows:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
<input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 13 February 2004 (13.02.2004)	Date of completion of this report 27 September 2004 (27.09.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2003/014775

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is language of a translation furnished for the purpose of:

international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report):

The international application as originally filed/furnished
 the description:

pages _____ 1-28, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:

pages _____, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
 pages* 13-15 received by this Authority on 14 May 2004 (14.05.2004)
 pages* 1-11 received by this Authority on 20 August 2004 (20.08.2004)

the drawings:

pages _____ 1-24, as originally filed/furnished
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____ 12
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (specify): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (specify): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (specify): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/JP 03/14775

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-11, 13-15	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-11, 13-15	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-11, 13-15	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

The following documents are cited in the international search report.

Document 1: JP 2002-259763 A (Mitsubishi Electric Corp.), 13 September 2002, entire text and fig. 1 to 30

Document 2: JP 2002-140362 A (Toshiba Corp.), 17 May 2002, entire text and fig. 1 to 13

The following documents are newly cited in the present international preliminary examination report.

Document 3: JP 2000-269840 A (Sharp Corp.), 29 September 2000, entire text and fig. 1 to 16

Document 4: JP 2000-348050 A (Hitachi, Ltd.), 15 December 2000, entire text and fig. 1 to 17

Claims 1 to 7, 10, 11 and 13 to 15

Document 1 discloses a device for supplying appropriate information according to the attributes of a user that has been detected by means of user IDs, wherein said device determines whether or not the supplied information is appropriate for an accompanying person in cases when the accompanying person is specified by means

of the user ID that has been assigned to said accompanying person. Document 2 discloses a system for supplying information according the location of a user, wherein said system detects the positions of a plurality of users.

Document 3 discloses a content reproduction device for learning and recording the preferred content, the interests or the like of a user, wherein said device records not only the preference data for a user, but also the preference data for a person who is accompanying the user. Therefore, it would be easy for a person skilled in the art to substitute the feature of determining whether or not the provided information is appropriate for an accompanying person, as disclosed in documents 1 and 2 with the feature of determining what information to supply according to the preference data for the user and the preference data for a person who is accompanying the user, as disclosed in document 3, and to determine what services to provide to the user on the basis of the newly detected accompanying person and the usage history that is stored in the storage means. Consequently, the inventions that are set forth in claims 1 to 7, 10, 11 and 13 to 15 do not involve an inventive step.

Claims 8 and 9

Document 4 discloses a device for providing product-related information to customers, which determines the number of people who are accompanying the customer. It would be easy for a person skilled in the art to combine the feature that is disclosed in document 4 with the features that are disclosed in documents 1 to 3; therefore, the invention that is set forth in claims 8 and 9 does not involve an inventive step.